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2021

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SONIC™ THE HEDGEHOG

30th ANNIVERSARY

SEGA®

"AMY'S NEW HOBBY"

STORY
GALE GALLIGAN

ART
THOMAS ROTHLISBERGER

COLORS
NATHALIE FOURDRAINE

LETTERS
SHAWN LEE

"RACE TO THE EMPIRE"

STORY
DAVID MARIOTTE

ART
VARIOUS

COLORS
VARIOUS

LETTERS
SHAWN LEE & COREY BREEN

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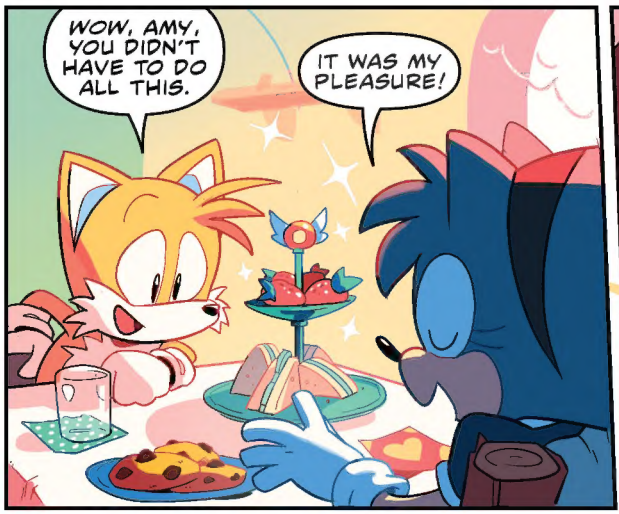
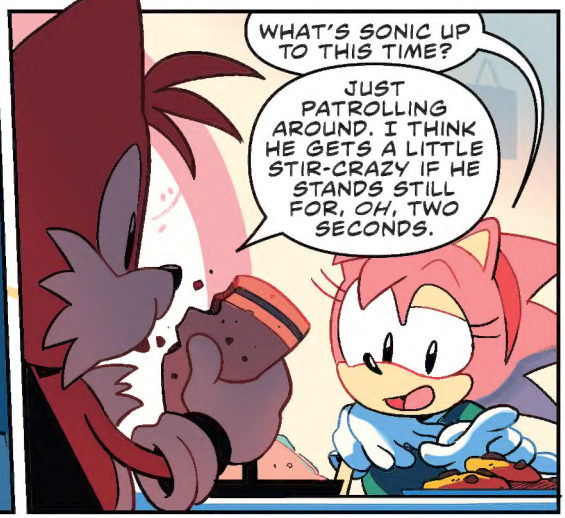
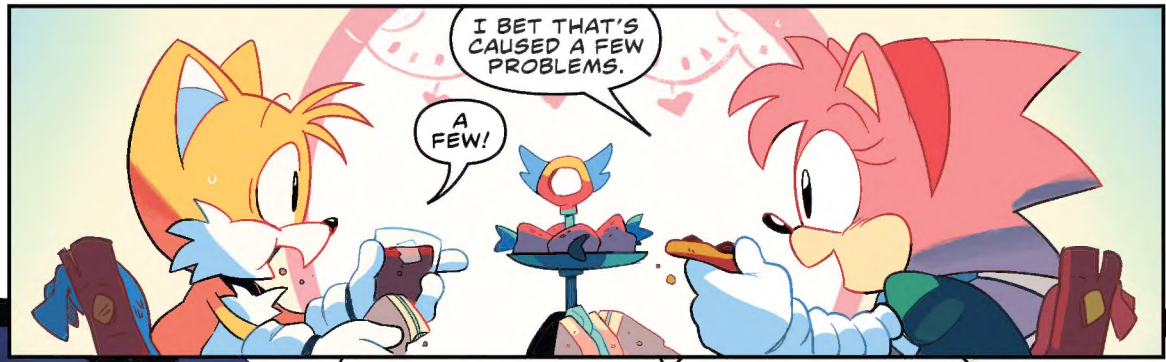
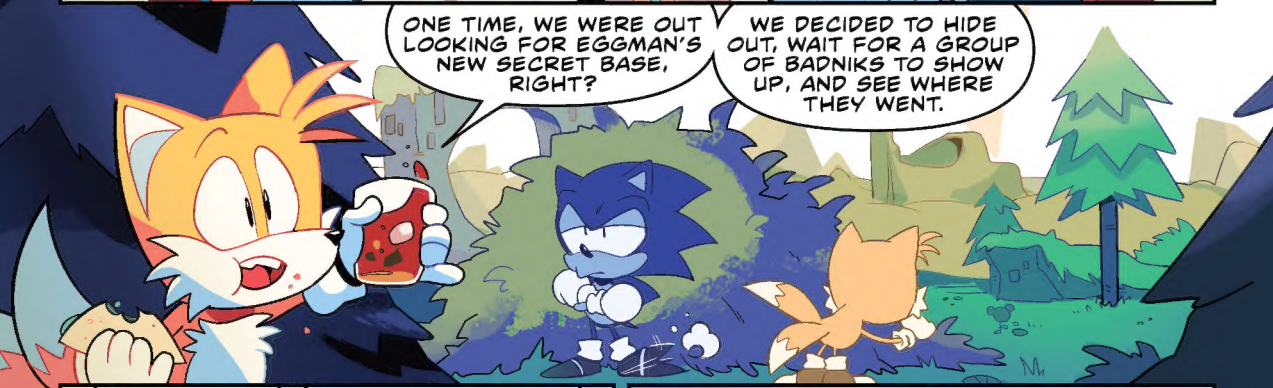
AMY'S NEW HOBBY
FUTURE
OH!
KNOCK
JUST IN TIME!
THANKS FOR HAVING ME.
SONIC'S DOING HIS SOLO THING, AND I WAS GETTING A LITTLE LONELY.
I KNOW THAT FEELING.


WOW, AMY, YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO DO ALL THIS.
IT WAS MY PLEASURE!


WHAT'S SONIC UP TO THIS TIME?
JUST PATROLLING AROUND. I THINK HE GETS A LITTLE STIR-CRAZY IF HE STANDS STILL FOR, OH, TWO SECONDS.


I BET THAT'S CAUSED A FEW PROBLEMS.
A FEW!

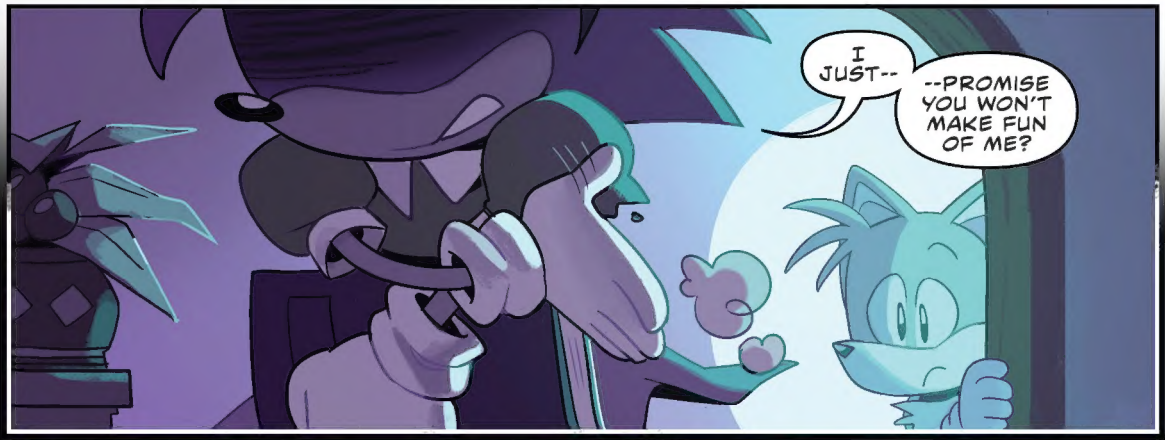

ONE TIME, WE WERE OUT LOOKING FOR EGGMAN'S NEW SECRET BASE, RIGHT?
WE DECIDED TO HIDE OUT, WAIT FOR A GROUP OF BADNIKS TO SHOW UP, AND SEE WHERE THEY WENT.

WHICH MEANS STAYING QUIET AND STAYING STILL.
BUT, OF COURSE, THE MOMENT SONIC SAW THE BADDIES, HE BLASTED OUT OF THE BUSHES AND--
MM-HMM.

--SPIN-DASHED ALL OF THEM?

HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
ACK!

TAKING NOTES ON SONIC?
YOU AREN'T SECRETLY WORKING FOR EGGMAN OR SOMETHING, ARE YOU?
WHAT? NO!


I JUST--
--PROMISE YOU WON'T MAKE FUN OF ME?

Amy Rose

yikes!

I've finally got you! WAHAHAHA!

Oh, no you don't!

It's Amy Rose!

you need to ~~chill out~~ cool off!

ahhhh!!!

I have to go back, but...

It's nice sometimes...

Not to be alone.

Until we see each-other again.

yeah.

I'VE BEEN, UM... WELL... TRYING SOMETHING NEW?

Sonic

'The Last Stand'

NEW CHILI DOGS

Boy, is this new Chili dog place popular!

We've been waiting forever!

What would you like?

Finally! I'm starv—

HELP!

a hero's work is never done.

Save some for us!!

'Strange, Isn't It?'

Previously...

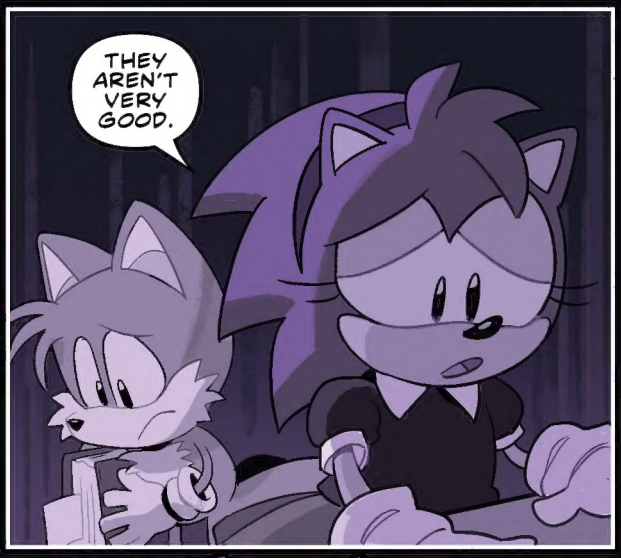
So it's come to this, Metal Sonic!

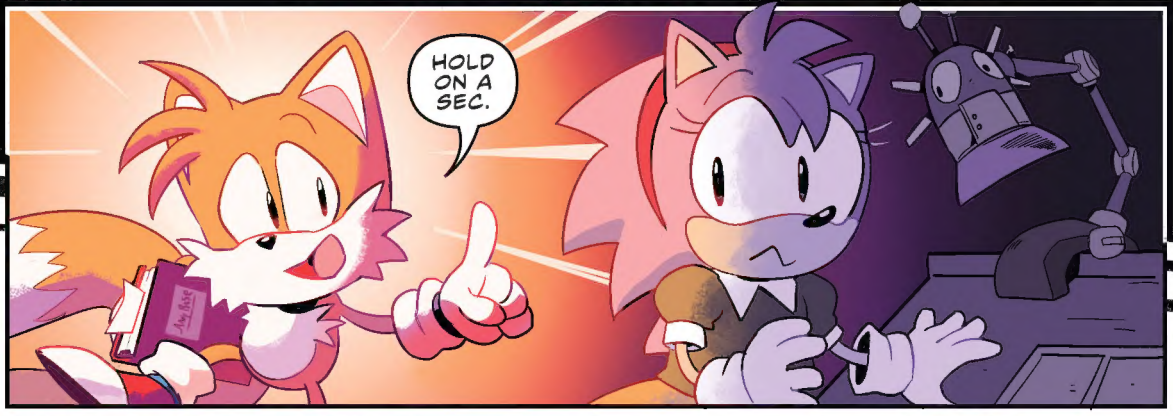
You might know everything I'm going to do...

...but I know everything you're going to do!

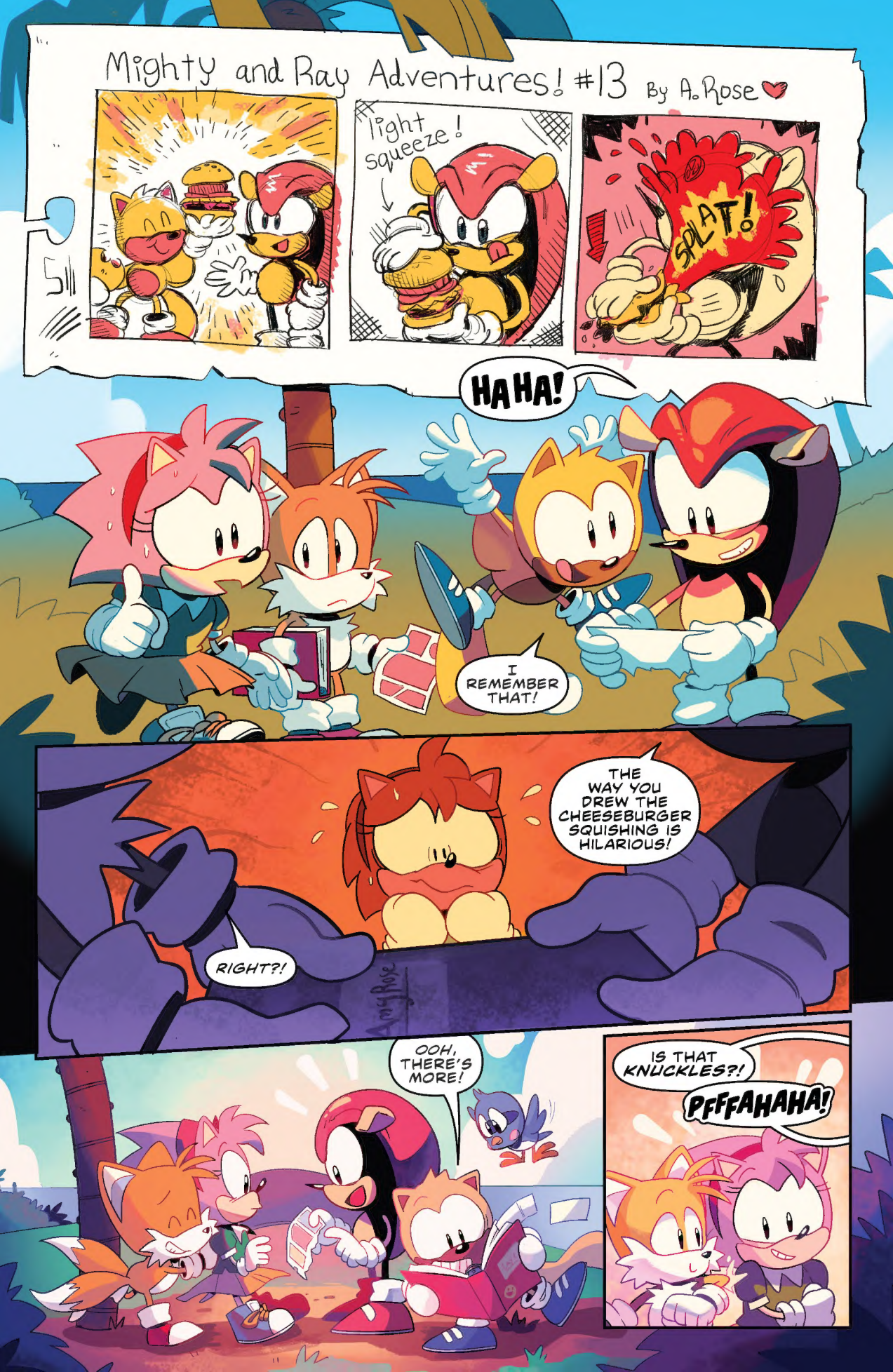
By A. Rose

HAS ANYONE ELSE SEEN THESE?
N-NO.


THEY AREN'T VERY GOOD.


HOLD ON A SEC.

HEY!


Mighty and Ray Adventures! #13 By A. Rose
Tight squeeze!
SPLAT!
HAHA!
I REMEMBER THAT!
THE WAY YOU DREW THE CHEESEBURGER SQUISHING IS HILARIOUS!
RIGHT?!
Amy Rose
OOH, THERE'S MORE!
IS THAT KNUCKLES?!
PFFFAHAHA!

COMING THROUGH, COMING THROUGH...!
...WHAT'S GOING ON?

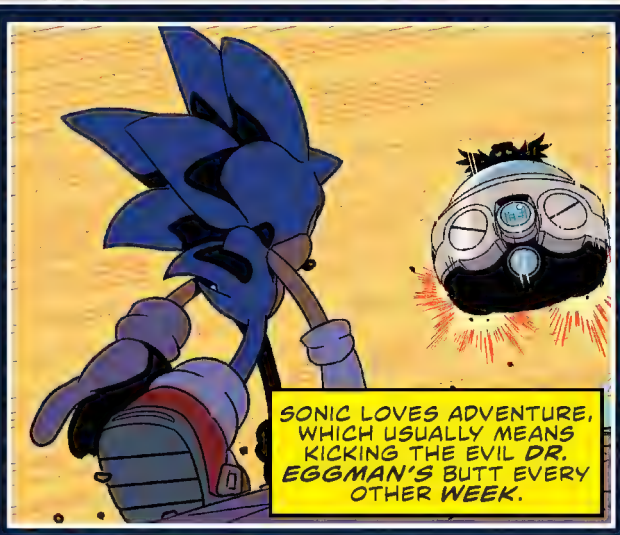
SONIC! YOU'RE BACK!
YOU HAVE TO READ THIS.
HUH?
Amy Rose
IS THIS ME?
Y-YES?

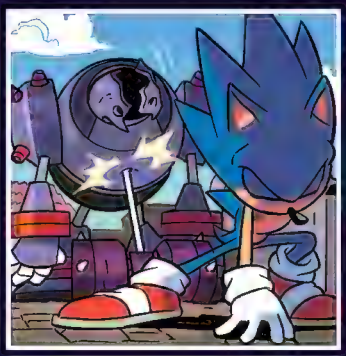
AMY! THIS IS WAY PAST COOL!
YOU REALLY SHOWED HOW AWESOME I AM!
AND YOU EVEN GOT THE NEW CHILI DOG STAND!
WOO!
I WAS JUST HAVING A LITTLE FUN.
THEY'RE REALLY GOOD, AMY.
IT'S ABOUT TIME SOMEONE RECORDED ALL OF OUR GREAT ADVENTURES.
HEY, DID I EVER TELL YOU ABOUT THE TIME WE FOUGHT EGGMAN ON HIS BIRTHDAY?
KIND OF FOUGHT.
NO!
SO, PICTURE THIS. IT'S A QUIET DAY IN THE VILLAGE...
END.

THIS IS *SONIC THE HEDGEHOG*. YOU MAY HAVE HEARD OF HIM...

THE *BLUE BLUR*. THE *FASTEST* THING IN THE WORLD. THAT DARN HEDGEHOG. A SUPER-SPEEDY *HERO!*

RACE TO THE EMPIRE

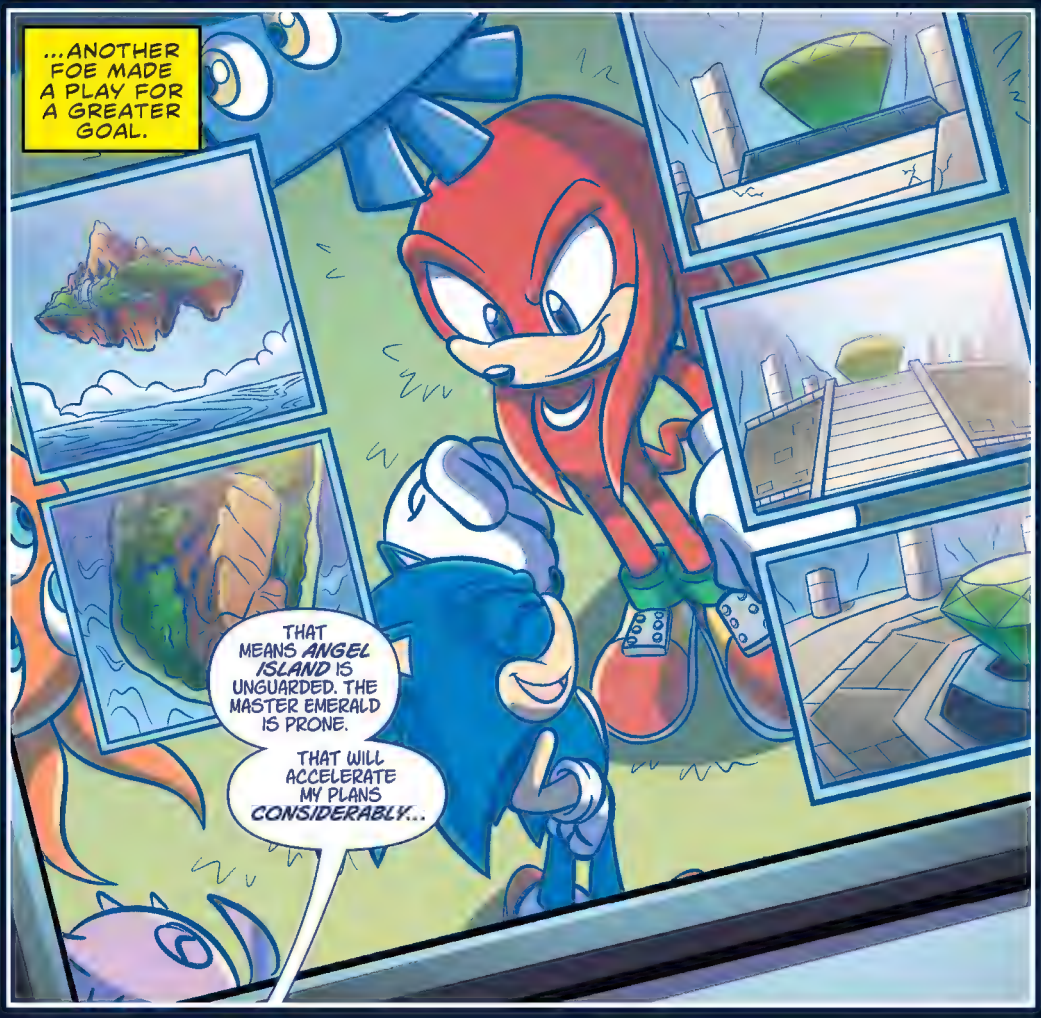




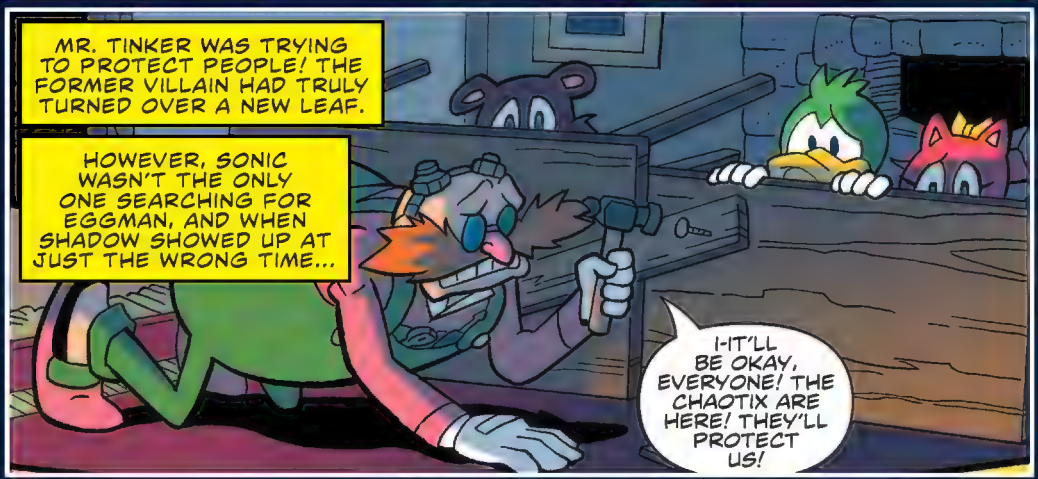
SONIC'S ENTHUSIASM FOR ADVENTURE THAT HAS BROUGHT A LOT OF TROUBLE HIS WAY, THOUGH.

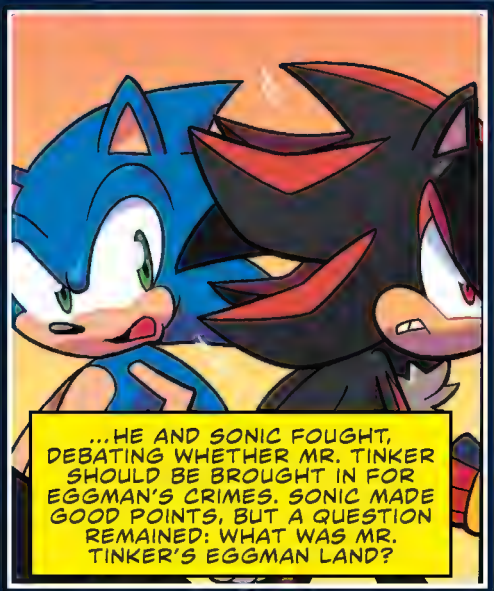
WHEN DR. EGGMAN WENT MISSING AFTER A CLIMATIC BATTLE, HIS ROBOTIC BADNIK ARMY KEPT GOING AS IF NOTHING HAD CHANGED...

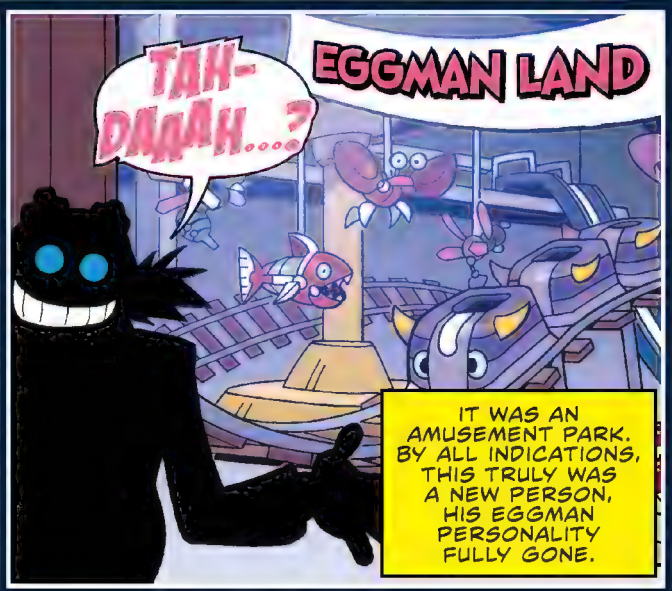
...AND WITH MYSTERIOUS WATCHFUL EYES UPON THEM...



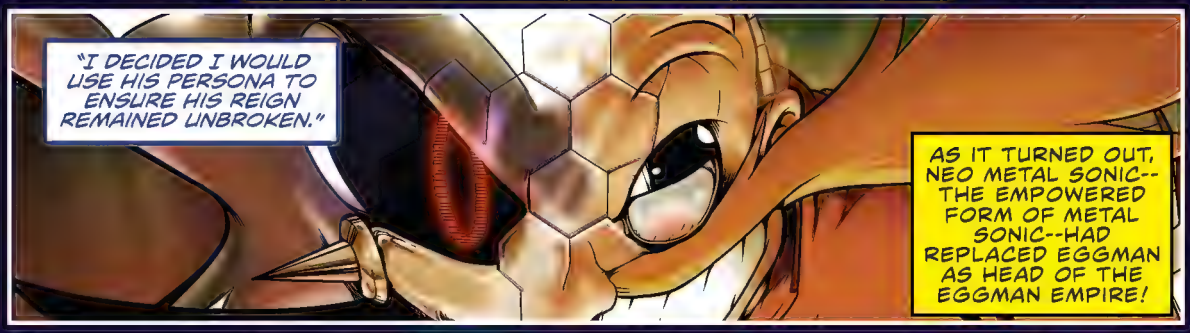
...THOUGH IT SEEMED EGGMAN MAY BE FAKING HIS MEMORY LOSS, SOMETHING ABOUT THE WAY HE REACTED TO HIS OWN BADNIKS SEEMED GENUINE...

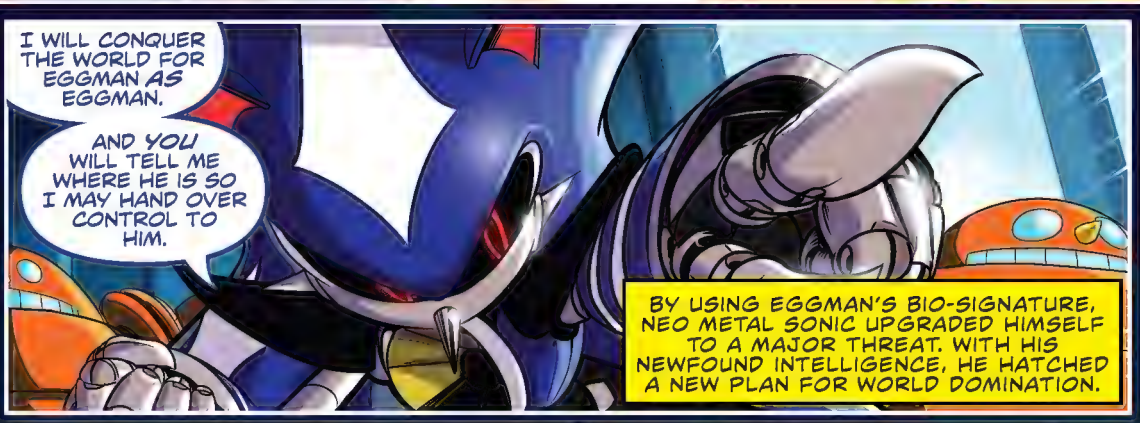


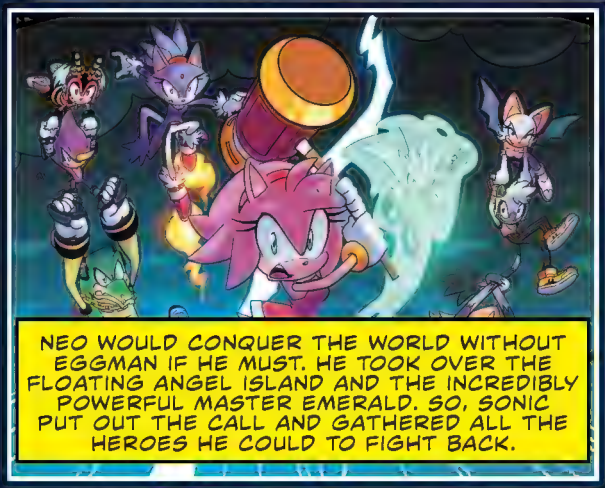


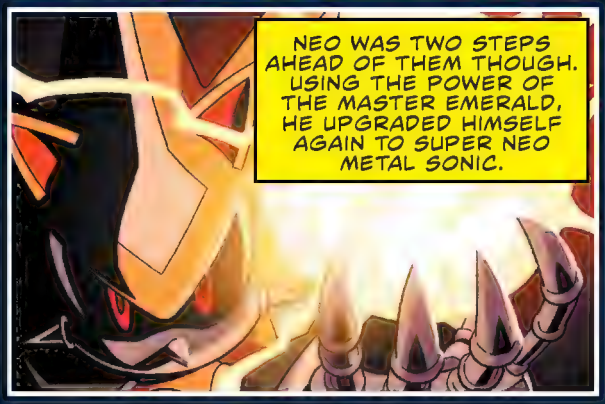


STILL SOMEONE WAS CONTROLLING THE EGGMAN EMPIRE, AND SONIC WAS DETERMINED TO FIND OUT WHO.



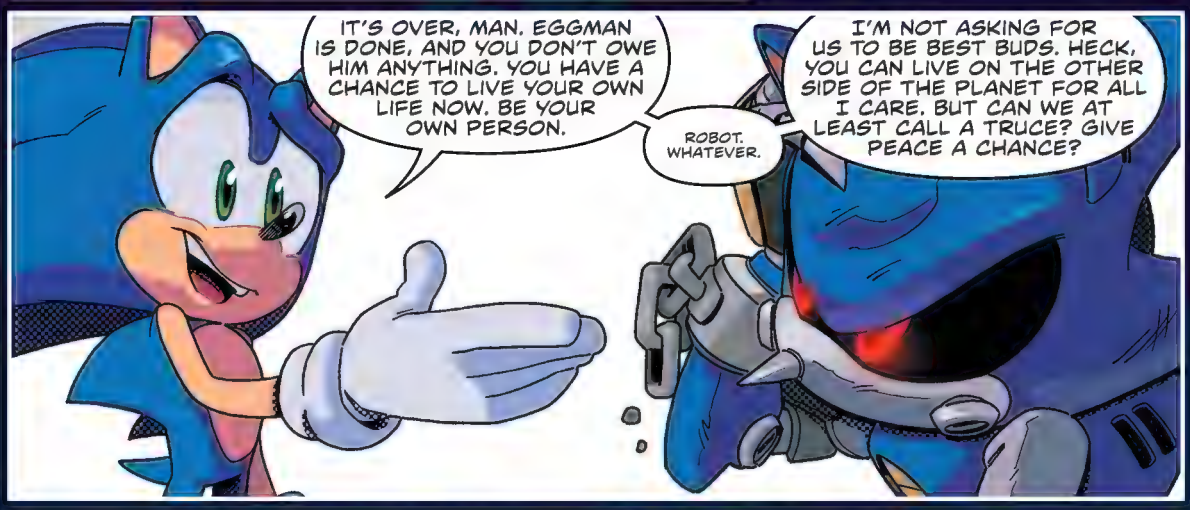


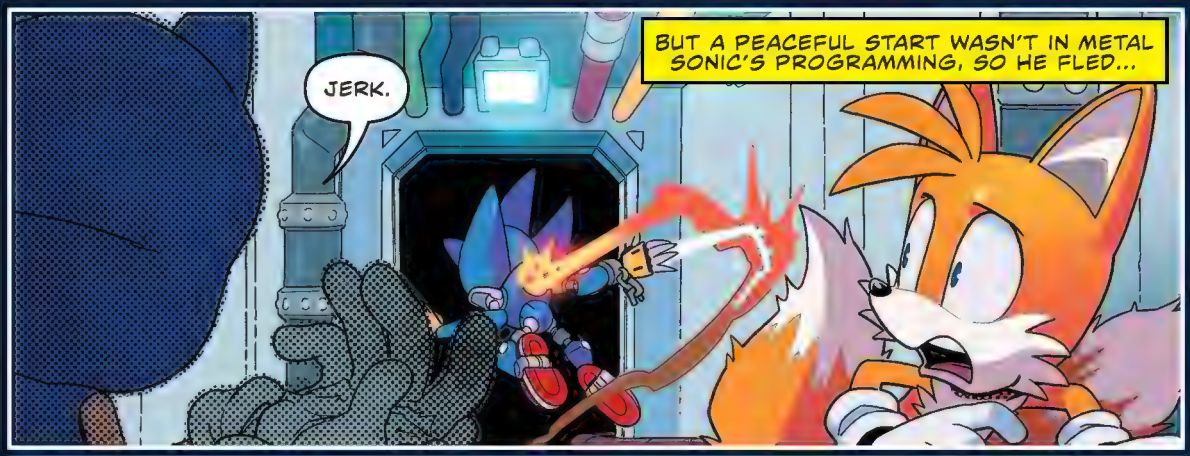


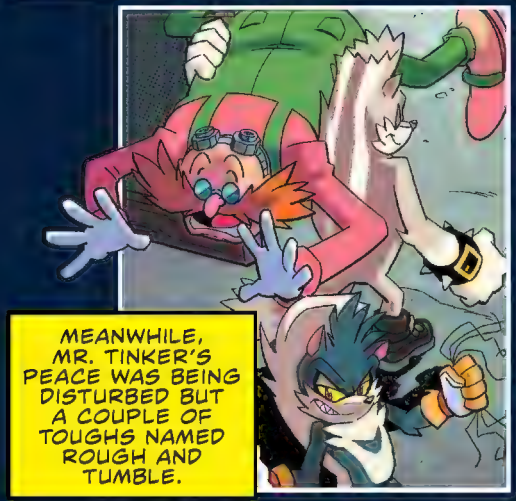


TOGETHER, THE HEROES STILL WON THE DAY AND DEPOWERED MASTER OVERLORD.

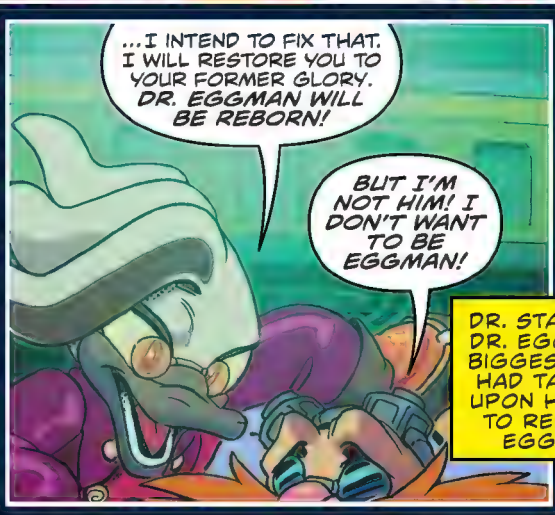
MUCH LIKE WITH MR. TINKER, SONIC OFFERED HIS OLD ENEMY A CHANCE AT A NEW START.



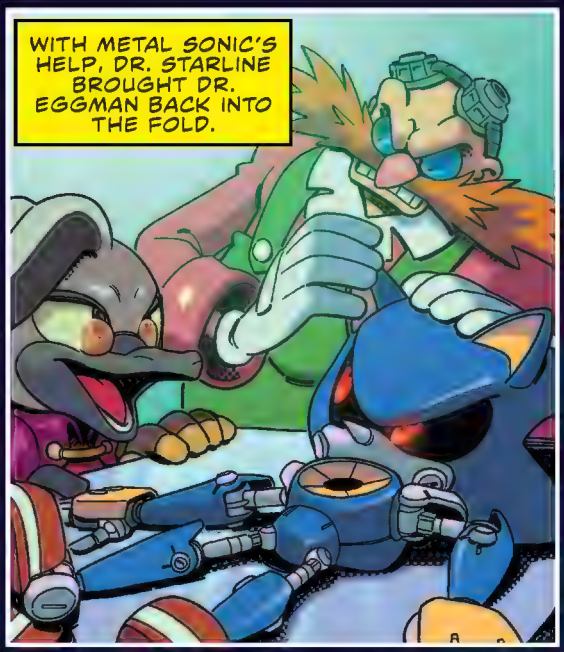




MEANWHILE, MR. TINKER'S PEACE WAS BEING DISTURBED BUT A COUPLE OF TOUGHS NAMED ROUGH AND TUMBLE.

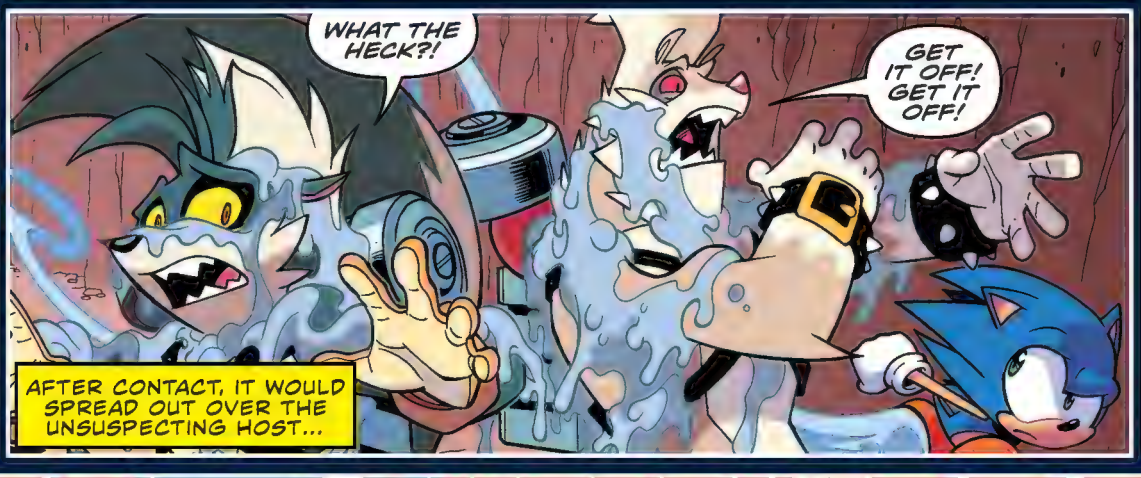


DR. STARLINE-- DR. EGGMAN'S BIGGEST FAN-- HAD TAKEN IT UPON HIMSELF TO RESTORE EGGMAN.

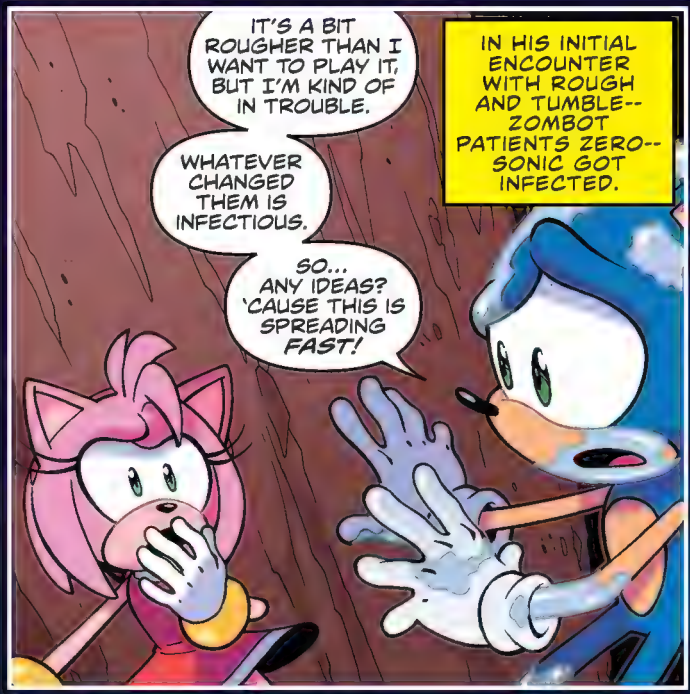

WITH METAL SONIC'S HELP, DR. STARLINE BROUGHT DR. EGGMAN BACK INTO THE FOLD.

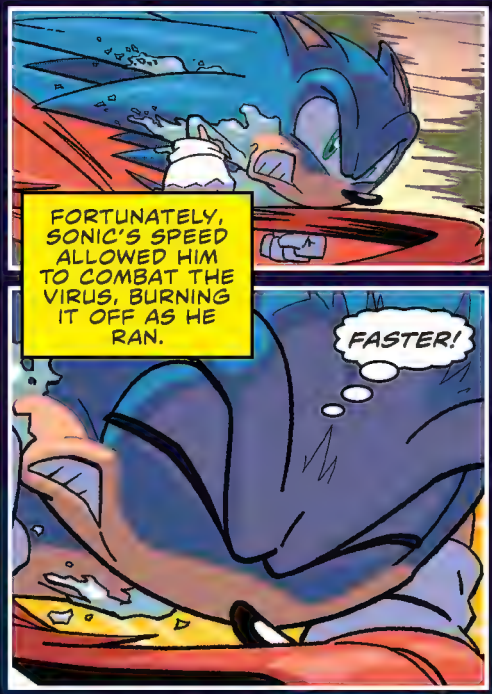
HIS MIND RESTORED, EGGMAN LAUNCHED INTO A NEW MASTER PLAN: THE METAL VIRUS.

SPLOOSH
THE METAL VIRUS WAS A SERIES OF SELF-REPLICATING NANOBOTS THAT INFECTED ANY LIVING ORGANIC MATERIAL THEY TOUCHED.

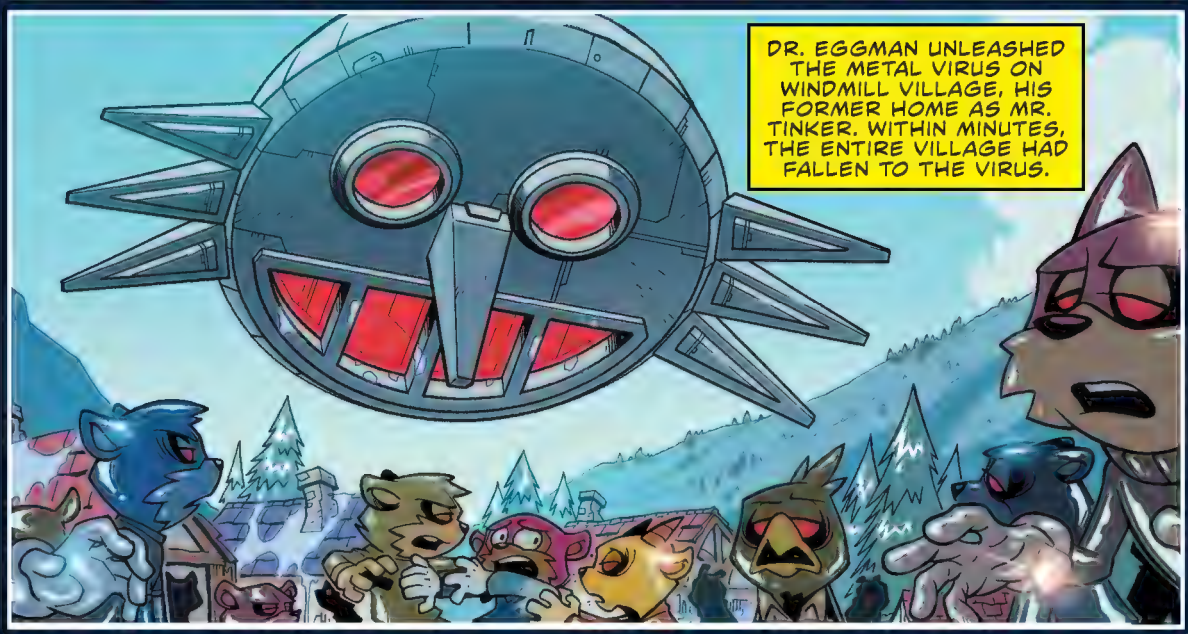

WHAT THE HECK?!
GET IT OFF! GET IT OFF!
AFTER CONTACT, IT WOULD SPREAD OUT OVER THE UNSUSPECTING HOST...

...UNTIL THEY WERE TRANSFORMED INTO ZOMBOTS--
--THOUGHTLESS ROBOTS DRIVEN ONLY BY AN URGE TO SPREAD THE VIRUS AND, FOR A WHILE, TO FOLLOW EGGMAN'S COMMAND.

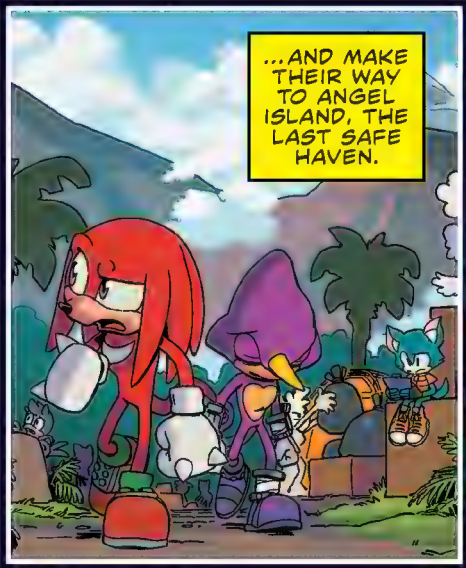

IT'S A BIT ROUGHER THAN I WANT TO PLAY IT, BUT I'M KIND OF IN TROUBLE.
WHATEVER CHANGED THEM IS INFECTIOUS.
SO... ANY IDEAS? 'CAUSE THIS IS SPREADING FAST!
IN HIS INITIAL ENCOUNTER WITH ROUGH AND TUMBLE--ZOMBOT PATIENTS ZERO--SONIC GOT INFECTED.


FORTUNATELY, SONIC'S SPEED ALLOWED HIM TO COMBAT THE VIRUS, BURNING IT OFF AS HE RAN.
FASTER!

MEANWHILE, DR. EGGMAN WAS USING THE SEVEN SUPER POWERFUL CHAOS EMERALDS, A GIFT FROM DR. STARLINE, TO LAUNCH HIS FIRST ASSAULT WITH THE METAL VIRUS.

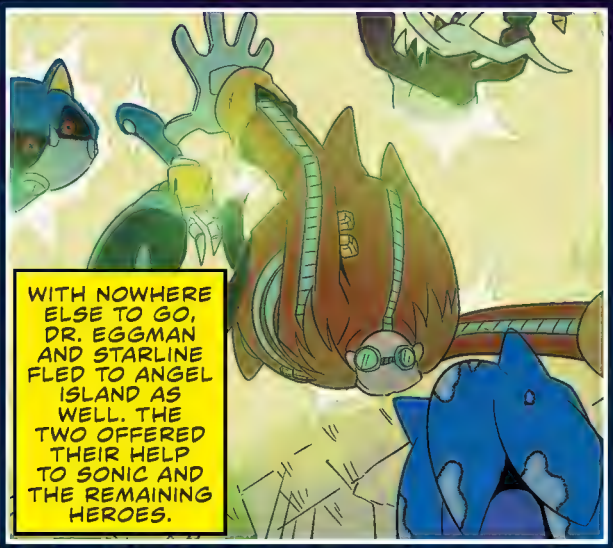

DR. EGGMAN UNLEASHED THE METAL VIRUS ON WINDMILL VILLAGE, HIS FORMER HOME AS MR. TINKER. WITHIN MINUTES, THE ENTIRE VILLAGE HAD FALLEN TO THE VIRUS.

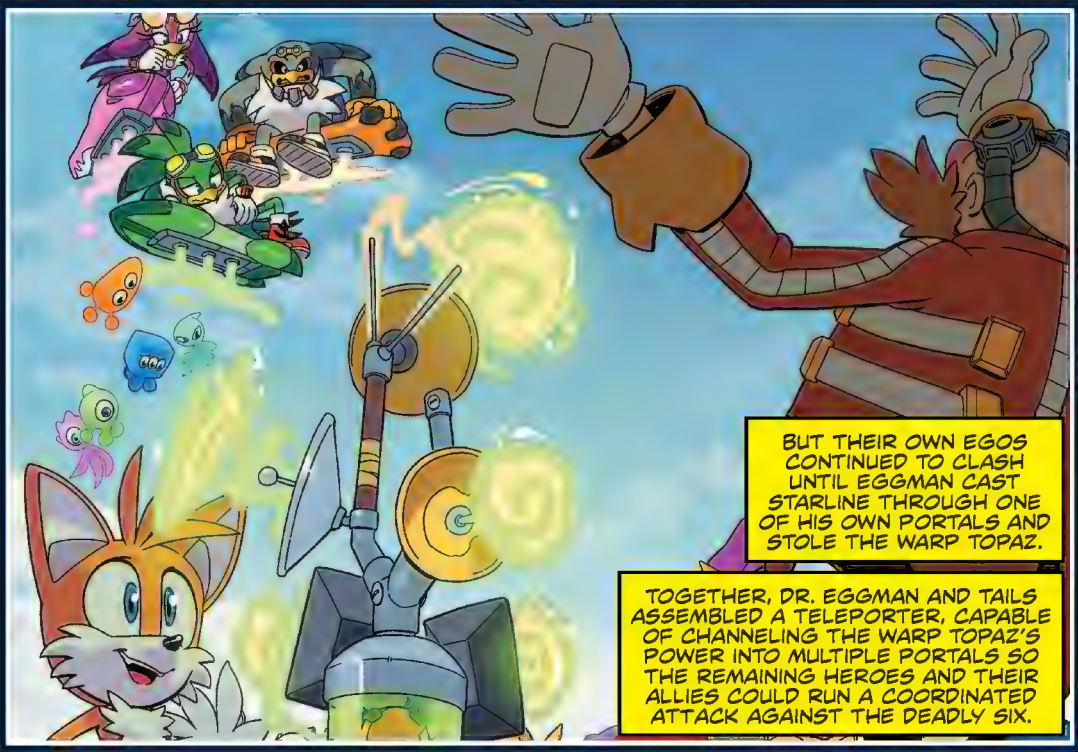
AS THE VIRUS SPREAD, WHOLE TOWNS FELL, JOINING THE MASSIVE ZOMBOT HORDE. MANY OF SONIC'S FRIENDS--IN MOMENTS OF HEROISM--JOINED THE INFECTED.
AS MORE AND MORE WERE INFECTED, DR. EGGMAN REALIZED HIS COMMANDS WEREN'T WORKING. THE VIRUS HAD GONE COMPLETELY OUT OF CONTROL!
WHEN RESTORATION HQ, THE GOOD GUYS' HEADQUARTERS, FELL, THE REMAINING HEROES AND CIVILIANS WERE FORCED TO RETREAT...

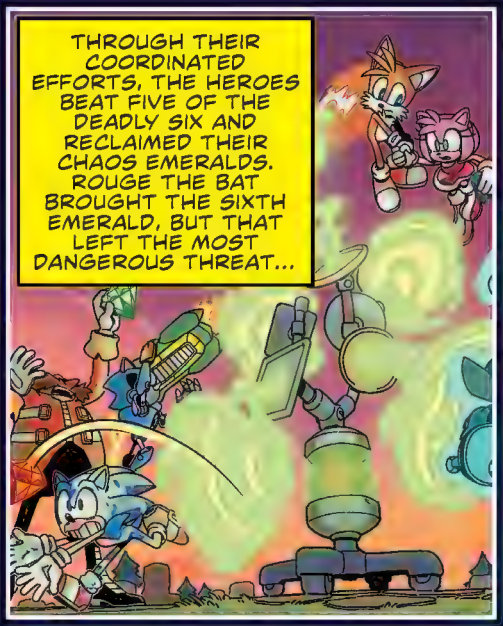

...AND MAKE THEIR WAY TO ANGEL ISLAND, THE LAST SAFE HAVEN.

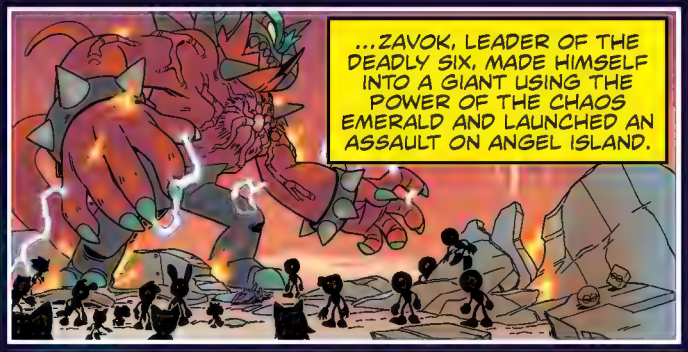
BUT WHILE THE HEROES SOUGHT SHELTER, DR. STARLINE OFFERED A DIFFERENT SOLUTION.
HE RECRUITED *THE DEADLY SIX*, VICIOUS WARRIORS FROM THE HIDDEN LOST HEX, BROUGHT BY THE TELEPORTING POWERS OF HIS WARP TOPAZ.
WITH THEIR ABILITY TO CONTROL ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELDS, ALLOWING THEM TO MANIPULATE MACHINERY, THE DEADLY SIX COULD COMMAND THE ZOMBOTS... IF DR. STARLINE COULD COMMAND THEM.

THE FIGHT WAS QUICK. THE DEADLY SIX TOOK OVER THE DOCTORS' OPERATION FOR THEMSELVES, NEWLY EMPOWERED BY THE CHAOS EMERALDS FORMERLY IN EGGMAN'S POSSESSION.
LIKE ALL THINGS, WE TAKE THEIR POWER AS OUR OWN.

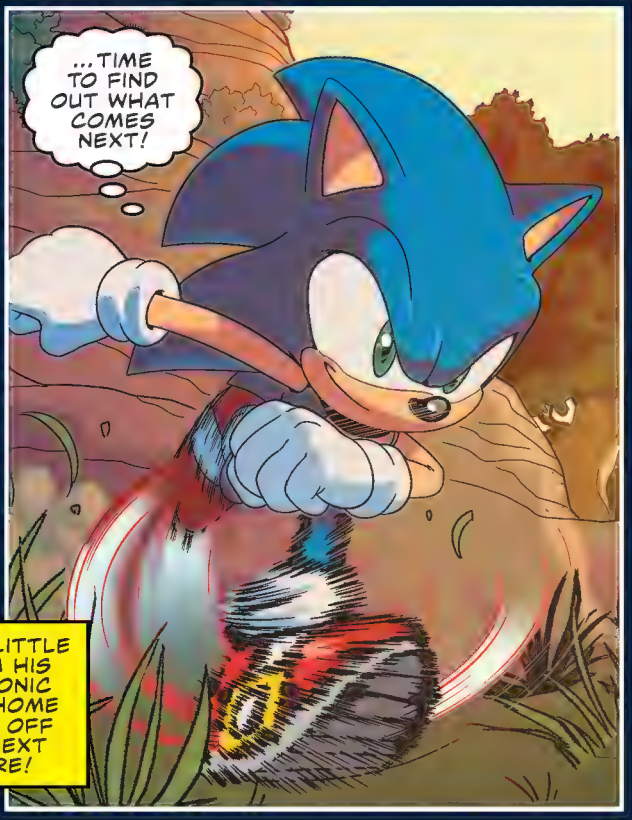

WITH NOWHERE ELSE TO GO, DR. EGGMAN AND STARLINE FLED TO ANGEL ISLAND AS WELL. THE TWO OFFERED THEIR HELP TO SONIC AND THE REMAINING HEROES.


BUT THEIR OWN EGOS CONTINUED TO CLASH UNTIL EGGMAN CAST STARLINE THROUGH ONE OF HIS OWN PORTALS AND STOLE THE WARP TOPAZ.
TOGETHER, DR. EGGMAN AND TAILS ASSEMBLED A TELEPORTER, CAPABLE OF CHANNELING THE WARP TOPAZ'S POWER INTO MULTIPLE PORTALS SO THE REMAINING HEROES AND THEIR ALLIES COULD RUN A COORDINATED ATTACK AGAINST THE DEADLY SIX.

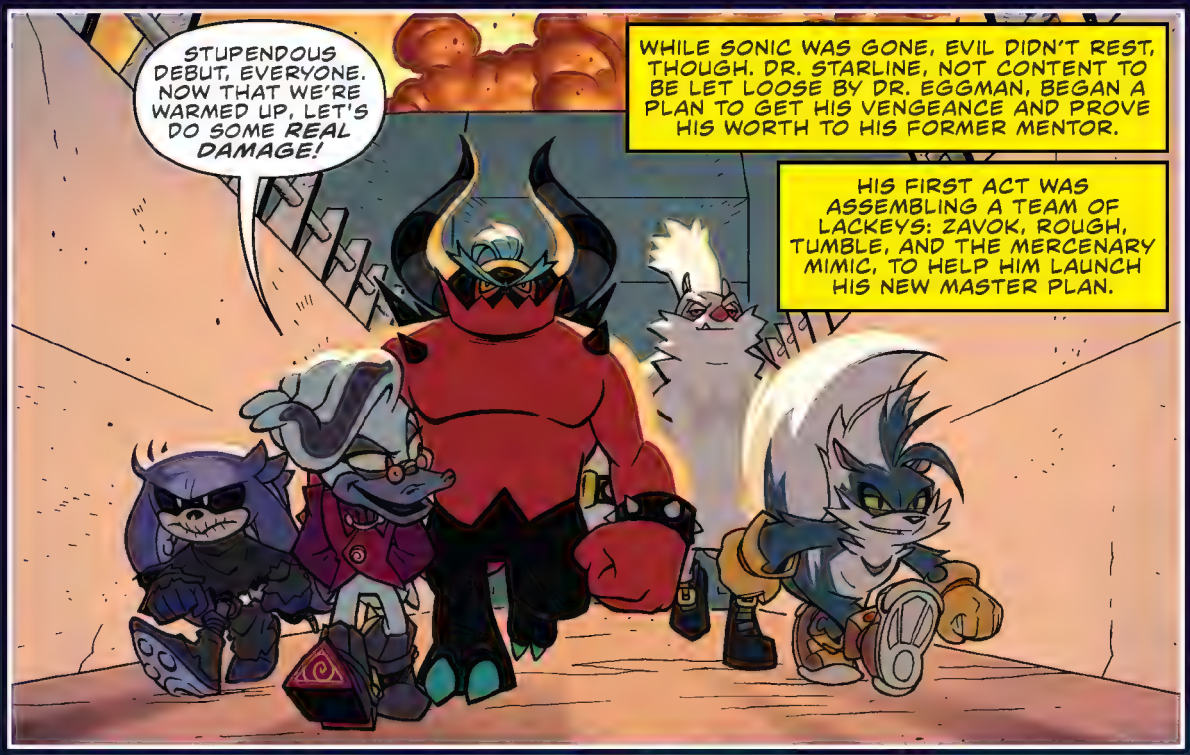


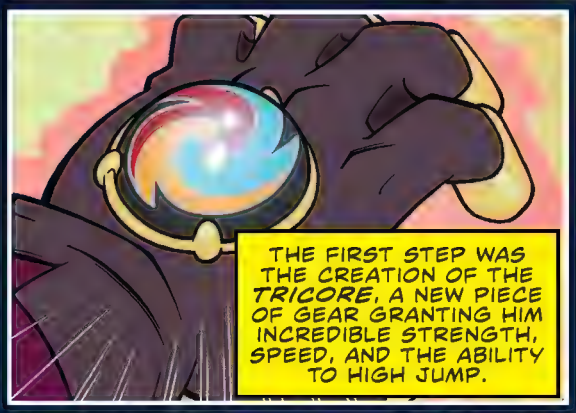


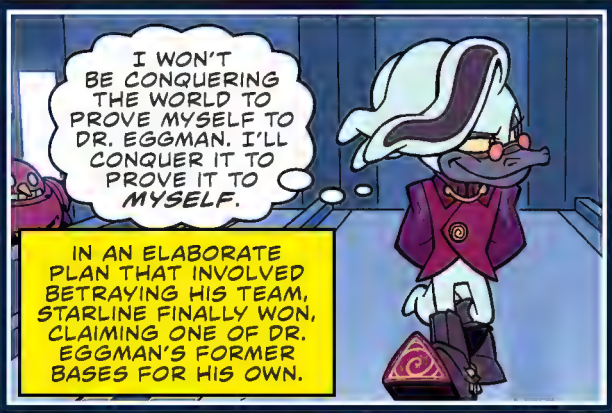
THE BATTLE WAS WON, BUT NOT WITHOUT COST. THE DEADLY SIX, DR. EGGMAN, METAL SONIC, ROUGH AND TUMBLE, AND DR. STARLINE HAD ALL ESCAPED. THE WARP TOPAZ WAS LOST. AND SONIC WAS AMNESIAC IN BLAZE THE CAT'S DIMENSION.

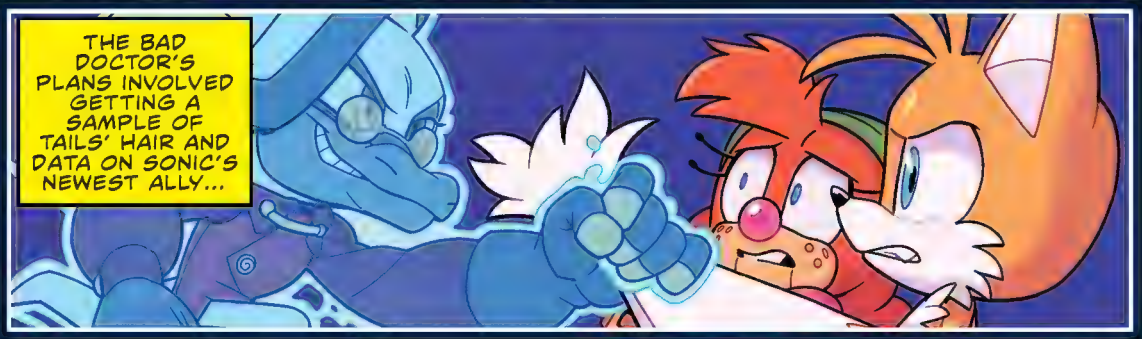


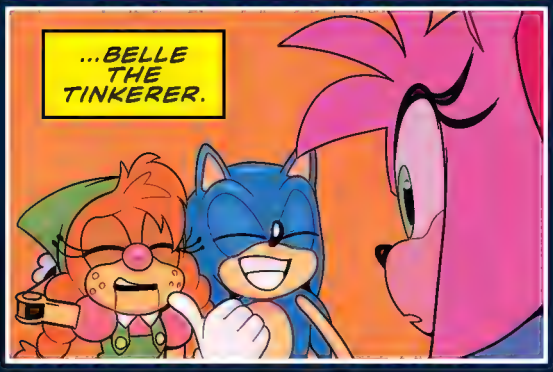
BUT WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM HIS FRIENDS, SONIC RETURNED HOME AND RACED OFF INTO THE NEXT ADVENTURE!


STUPENDOUS DEBUT, EVERYONE. NOW THAT WE'RE WARMED UP, LET'S DO SOME REAL DAMAGE!
WHILE SONIC WAS GONE, EVIL DIDN'T REST, THOUGH. DR. STARLINE, NOT CONTENT TO BE LET LOOSE BY DR. EGGMAN, BEGAN A PLAN TO GET HIS VENGEANCE AND PROVE HIS WORTH TO HIS FORMER MENTOR.
HIS FIRST ACT WAS ASSEMBLING A TEAM OF LACKEYS: ZAVOK, ROUGH, TUMBLE, AND THE MERCENARY MIMIC, TO HELP HIM LAUNCH HIS NEW MASTER PLAN.

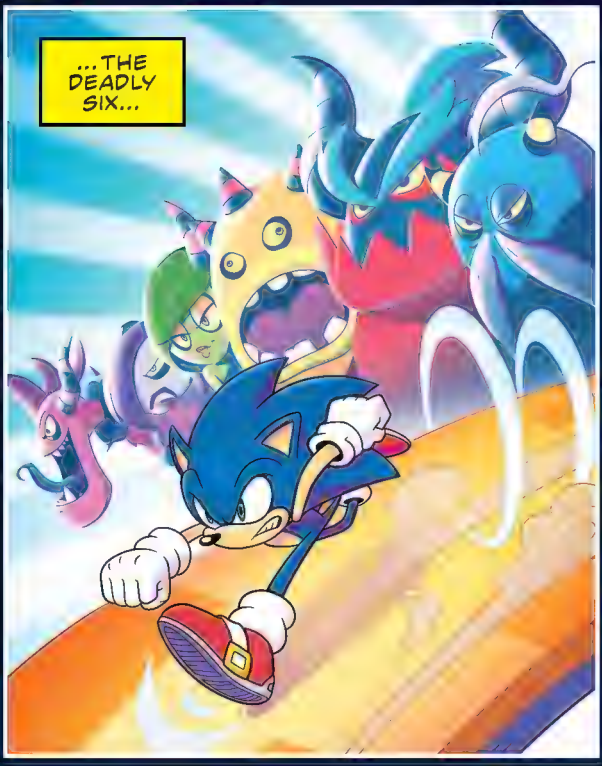

THE FIRST STEP WAS THE CREATION OF THE TRICORE, A NEW PIECE OF GEAR GRANTING HIM INCREDIBLE STRENGTH, SPEED, AND THE ABILITY TO HIGH JUMP.


I WON'T BE CONQUERING THE WORLD TO PROVE MYSELF TO DR. EGGMAN. I'LL CONQUER IT TO PROVE IT TO MYSELF.
IN AN ELABORATE PLAN THAT INVOLVED BETRAYING HIS TEAM, STARLINE FINALLY WON, CLAIMING ONE OF DR. EGGMAN'S FORMER BASES FOR HIS OWN.


THE BAD DOCTOR'S PLANS INVOLVED GETTING A SAMPLE OF TAILS' HAIR AND DATA ON SONIC'S NEWEST ALLY...


...BELLE THE TINKERER.

AFTER AN ENCOUNTER WITH DR. EGGMAN CONFIRMED HER HERITAGE, BELLE SEEMINGLY FURTHER COMMITTED HERSELF TO HELPING OUT SONIC AND FRIENDS AGAINST DR. EGGMAN...



CATCH UP ON ALL OF SONIC'S ADVENTURES AND JOIN HIM EVERY MONTH IN *SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!*

AND DON'T MISS DRS. EGGMAN AND STARLINE'S PLANS COME TO A HEAD ON THE ROAD TO "BATTLE FOR THE EMPIRE" RUNNING IN SONIC #45-49 AND *SONIC: IMPOSTER SYNDROME* #1-4, BUILDING UP TO THE EPIC CONCLUSION IN 2022!

ART TRACY YARDLEY

SONIC LETTERS SQUAD

ART BY COURTNEY THOMAS

Hello Sonic Squad and new readers alike! Whether this is your first, fiftieth, or whatever number of Sonic comics, we hope you enjoyed "Amy's New Hobby" by Gale Galligan, Thomas Rothlisberger, Nathalie Fourdraine, and Shawn Lee! And our special recap by a host of talented Sonic creators! Now, as a special treat, let's check out your letters and fan art that we received by mail to the IDW offices!

Hi IDW,

I'm a big fan of the Sonic comics and games. I love that the comics are back. I already have comics #1-7 and 3 issues from 8. Is there a comic number 9? I want to thank everyone who has worked on creating so many awesome games and comics. How can I join the Sonic Comics Squad Facebook group? Oh, I almost forgot to ask you guys will Zavok and the Deadly Six return? Hope you like the picture. I would love to see it in print.

Yours truly,
Naomi Linda Rosenzweig

P.S. Who is Mimic?

Hi Naomi!

Very cool to hear you're such a big fan of the comics! Sounds like you've been picking up the collected editions as well as the single issues to get caught up! Happy to report now only is there a collected volume 9, but we're planning on doing these for a long time to come! In large part, thanks to all those amazing folks who work to make the Sonic comics possible and so appreciate all your kind words and thanks! Thank you for making us want to do more!

As per your other questions. If you have a Facebook account, you can look up the IDW Sonic Comics Squad group in the search bar, request to join the group, answer one question, and be part of the Squad. If you don't have a Facebook account, you can see if a parent or other guardian will join the Squad with you using their account. As per Zavok and the Deadly Six, well, we've been seeing them in the main Sonic comics (issues #41-44, Zeti Hunt), which is on sale now! Finally, Mimic is a shape-shifting bad guy, featured in the two Sonic side series: Sonic the Hedgehog: Tangle & Whisper and Sonic the Hedgehog: Bad Guys, both on sale now! But enough about us, let's take a look at your fantastic depiction of the Oil Ocean Zone!

Hi! My name is Jo. I'm twelve and I am a huge fan of your Sonic the Hedgehog comics. I just started reading them about 3 months ago [as of March 2021], and I own "Recovery" parts 1-2 and "Chao Races and Badnik Bases" part 1. My sister Naomi was who really got me into Sonic. We got a SEGA Genesis for Christmas and it had the first 2 games. I'm not really a gamer, so I leave that to Naomi, but I am a huge bookworm. I love comics because they are like a bridge between books and movies, you can see what's happening and know what the characters are thinking at the same time. Anyway... I'm not much of an artist, but I do want to be an author when I grow up. My favorite character is Tails and my favorite artist is Adam Bryce Thomas.

Jo Rosenzweig

Hi Jo!

Hmm... Rosenzweig... that name sounds familiar! Oh, as in our other letter writer! Of course! So cool when we get siblings writing in! Well, thanks for your kind words, the whole team appreciates it (and now we're all jealous of Adam getting the extra praise!). Speaking of creative teams making comics, there are quite a few comics made by siblings, so if you like writing and Naomi's the artist/gamer, maybe you can start making your own comics together!

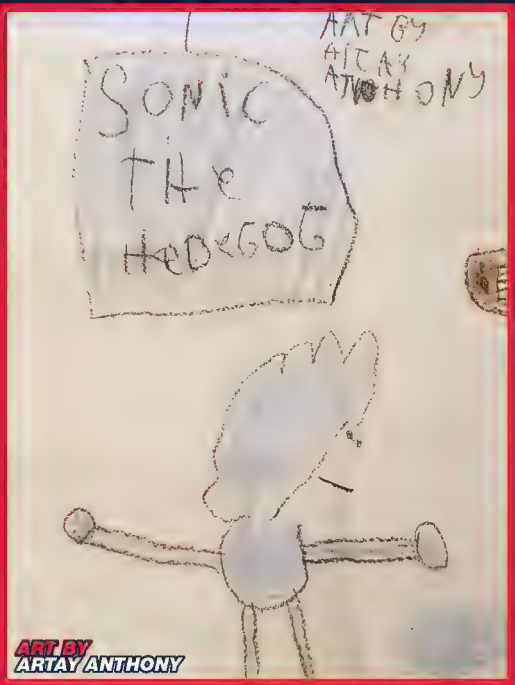
For a lot of the folks working on Sonic today, we also started loving Sonic by getting a SEGA system and Sonic games for Christmas–and at least a few of us got the original Genesis, not the super cool mini version! It's really amazing

ART BY
NAOMI LINDA ROSENZWEIG

to see that tradition carry on, and when you combine it with being a reader and a passion for comics as a medium, that really is how you end up doing something like this in the future! Here's hoping that one day you're getting letters saying someone's favorite author, Jo!

Hi! I'm Artay. I drew this picture. I really like Sonic. I'm 8.

Hi Artay! Thanks for sending us your picture of Sonic! He looks way past cool! Keep up the great work and you might be an official Sonic artist in the future!



ART BY
ARTAY ANTHONY

Dear SEGA,

My birthday wish is for you to bring Mr.Tinker back. He was an innocent guy, and a great role model. Please, for my birthday wish, bring Mr.Tinker back, and let him live peacefully forever. Or, if you do not want to take Eggman out of the comics, maybe you can make a story where Starline accidentally opened a portal to another dimension, and Mr. Tinker hops out and escapes and lives peacefully forever!

Your biggest fan,
Rishabh

Hi Rishabh!

Sounds like you're not just our biggest fan, but Mr.Tinker's biggest fan (and for those who aren't as big of fans as Rishabh here, read through the recap in this issue to learn more about Mr. Tinker)! You know, you're not the only one who really wants to see Mr.Tinker back. Belle the Tinkerer, our new character, sure does miss her dad too! Now, we can't say much about the future of the comic and where it will go, but trust us when we say that Belle's story isn't over and her love for Mr.Tinker's still got a big role to play as we build up to issue #50 next year! As per your idea for how to have our Egg-cake and eat it too (yuck?), whatever did happen to Dr. Starline's warp topaz after it disappeared, huh?

Thanks for joining us, Squad (and if you've read even one Sonic comic, you're part of the Squad)! As delightful as these mailed in letters were, don't forget that you can send your art and letters digitally to letters@idwpublishing.com, and make sure to mark them "OKAY TO PRINT!" And join the IDW Sonic Comics Squad on Facebook! Until next time… gotta go fast!

SONIC™
THE HEDGEHOG
THE DEADLY SIX ARE ON THE LOOSE!
JEWEL THE BEETLE RECRUITS SONIC'S FRIENDS, THE CHAOTIX, TO STOP THE MARAUDING GANG!
THE FOUR-PART "ZETI HUNT" BEGINS IN SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #41!
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SONIC™ THE HEDGEHOG

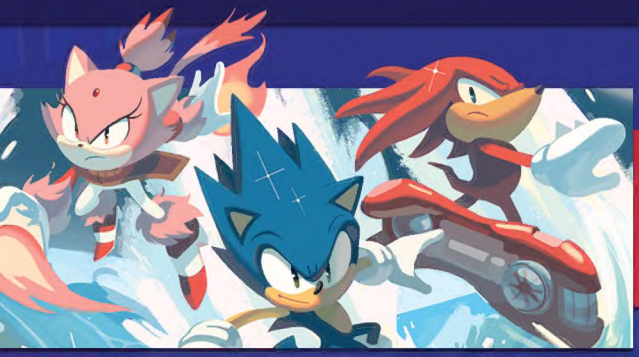
AVAILABLE NOW!

Volume 1: Fallout!

The Blue Blur races around the world to defeat the evil Eggman Empire!

Volume 2: The Fate of Dr. Eggman

Dr. Eggman's missing and someone's running his army... but who?



Volume 3: Battle For Angel Island

Will Sonic be able to take down Neo Metal Sonic once and for all?

Volume 4: Infection

When Sonic is infected by Dr. Eggman's dangerous zombie robot virus, he'll need help from his friends to save the world!

Volume 5: Crisis City

Can Sonic save a city in crisis... or has he finally met his match?

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ON YOUR MARKS. GET SET. GO!

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THEY'RE BAD. AND THEY'RE BACK!

DR. STARLINE HAS A NEFARIOUS PLAN, BUT HE'LL HAVE TO RECRUIT SOME FAMILIAR AND NOT-SO-FRIENDLY FACES TO DO IT!

JUNE 2021
IAN FLYNN · JACK LAWRENCE
96 PAGES

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